

39. (amended) A method of printing on a molded thermoplastic material comprising the steps of:

- heating a toner comprised of a coloring agent and thermoplastic toner particles to a toner reactive state;
- heating the molded thermoplastic material to a material reactive state;
- electrographically printing the toner directly onto the thermoplastic material; and
- hardening the thermoplastic material thereby establishing a bond between the toner and the thermoplastic material,

whereby the thermoplastic material and toner form a single unsupported layer.

43. (amended) A method of printing on a molded thermoplastic material comprising the steps of:

- heating the thermoplastic material to a material reactive state;
- electrographically printing a toner directly onto the molded thermoplastic material such that the toner is heated by the thermoplastic material and reaches a toner reactive state; and
- hardening the thermoplastic material thereby establishing a bond between the toner and the thermoplastic material,

whereby the thermoplastic material and toner form a single unsupported layer.

Remarks

The Office Action and prior art have been reviewed with care in preparing for this amendment and response. The Applicants appreciate the attention of the Examiner to the application.

Claims 26, 28-35, 37, 39-45 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Chowdry et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,102,767). Claim 27 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chowdry et al. Claim 36 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chowdry et al. in view of Kuehnle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,510,225).